expressed happiness at the progress and forward movement. Both sides felt that the process of improvement of relations should continue while differences are gradually resolved. The development of economic and trade linkages with Chine contribute meaningfully to this process. It was agreed to hasten finalisation of agreements on direct shipping and banking links. An Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation was signed during the visit. It is expected to facilitate investment and technology flows between the two countries.

During discussions the two sides stressed the importance of implementation of the Border Peace and Tranquillity Agreement and agreed to work towards turning India-China border areas into areas of friendship and to open further points for border trade between the two countries. The Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister reiterated that the Kashmir question should be resolved through a patient dialogue between India and Pakistan.

The visit provided a useful opportunity for a detailed exchange of views where both sides have expressed their determination to continue positive developments in India-China relations so as to establish a mature, stable and long term relationship between the two countries.

Maintenance of National Highway between Calcutta and Bombay

*434. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta-Bombay National Highway via Keonjhargarh and Sambalpur is not being maintained properly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps are being taken to maintain the road; and

(d) what provision has been made for Eighth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Maintenance of National Highways is not a Plan activity. National Highways including Calcutta-Bombay route are maintained in a traffic worthy condition within available non-Plan funds.

Special programmes to curb population growth

*435. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special programmes were launched on the World Population Day on 11th July, 1994 to effectively curb the growth of population in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) World population day is used to increase awareness on small family norm. To this end the following programmes were launched on the World Population Day.

(i) Two stamps of the denomination Rs. 0.75 and Rs. 1.00 specially designed by the Department of Family Welfare were released by the President of India. The stamps focus on small family norm and male responsibility.

(ii) An entertainment based 90 minutes feature film named Meri Pyari Nimmo was formally released by Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare. The film promotes smaller families and spacing between children.

(iii) A World Population Day supplement was brought out in English, Hindi and regional languages in prominent Newspapers throughout the country.

(iv) The Department of Family Welfare funded Sahitya Kala Parishad, Government of NCT, for holding a Kavi Sammelan with renowned poets contributing on the theme of population.

(v) Chambers of Commerce and Industry, voluntary organisations, schools, colleges and other institutions observed the day so as to focus attention on population issues.

(vi) State Governments carried out multi farious activities like holding of quiz, essay and painting competitions, seminars etc. for focusing attention on population issues.

Criteria fixed for issuance of complimentary railway passes

*436. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI K.R. MALKANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules governing the issue of complimentary free passes by the Railways;

(b) what are the names of the persons to whom such passes were issued during the each of the last three years and so far in 1994 and under what category;

(c) whether 'fake complimentary passes' have been in use for quite some time and recently some fake complimentary passes and the racket involved in this fraud have been detected;

(d) if so, what are the facts and relevant details in this regard and the action taken against the persons apprehended;

(e) what remedial measures Government have taken or propose to take to obviate the chances of such frauds resulting in great loss to the Railways; and

(f) how many complimentary passes have been cancelled during each of the last three years and so far in 1994 and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Complimentary Card Passes are granted by Ministry of Railways to eminent persons, organisations devoted to social, cultural, scientific, literary, sports and educational activities of all India Character etc. and based on justification/merits of each case.

(b) The names of individuals/organisations to whom such passes were issued during 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 so far are given in the Annexure containing List 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively. [*See* Appendix 171, Annexure No. 65]

(c) to (e). No cases of fake Complimentary Passes have come to notice. However, some complaints regarding misuse of the passes were received. Preventive/surprise checks by Commercial and vigilance Departments continue to be made in this regard.

(f) No Complimentary Card Pass was cancelled during 1991, 1992 and 1993. During 1994, in order to undertake a comprehensive review of these passes, 170 First Class and 15 Second Class Complimentary Card Passes have been cancelled.

Officers on Deputation to WHO

*437. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare who left their jobs and joined the World Health Organisation (WHO) during the last three years; and

(b) what is the number of employees of State Governments who have joined the WHO during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Nil.

(b) Information is not available.

Chinese Foreign Minister's reaction on arms transfer to Pakistan

*438. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of Chinese Foreign Minister Guinchin, India showed its concern about supply of Chinese arms to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Chinese Foreign Minister on the supply of weapons to Pakistan recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.